

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 IO-13 MC-02 SCA-01
EB-08 DHA-02 /118 W
-----281825 076100 /44

R 281635Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4634
INFO SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY COLLECTIVE 101
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASHA
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY SAN
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USIA WASHDC
CINCPAC
CINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM
DIA WASHDC
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG
CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA
CNO WASHDC//OP-614
DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII
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FOR POLADS

USIA FOR IOP,IBS, IPS, IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PINR, PARM, MILI, SHUM, PLO, CY, CH, 74, US, XF,
OPEC, XJ, XM, ENRG, EPAP, XF, EG, IS, ET, AO, CG, GH, PE,
CSCE, YO
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY: FEBRUARY 26-28, 1977

1. U.S. COVERAGE:

--PAVEL DEMCHENKO DISCUSSES SECRETARY'S ME TRIP
IN FEB. 27 PRAVDA "INTERNATIONAL WEEK" COLUMN.
DEMCHENKO SAYS DUE TO POSITION OF U.S. AND ISRAEL IT
HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE TO CONVENE GENEVA CONFERENCE.
STATEMENTS OF SOME ARAB JOURNALISTS CONCERNING A
MORE "BALANCED" OR "EQUAL" U.S. ME POLICY ON THE
PART OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION HAVE BEEN BELIED BY
EVENTS, INCLUDING MOVES TO RIGHT IN EGYPT, U.S. SUPPLY
OF M-60 TANK AND 155 MM ARTILLERY (AND POSSIBILITY
OF FLIR-TANK NIGHT VISION SUPPLY) TO ISRAEL (DESPITE
PRESIDENT'S REFUSAL TO PROVIDE CONCUSSION BOMB), AND
VANCE'S ATTEMPT TO WEAKEN ARAB SUPPORT OF PALESTIN-
IAN STATE. VANCE'S IGNORING OF PLO IS
NOTED, AS IS POSSIBLE U.S. INTEREST IN DELAYING
CONVOCAION OF GENEVA CONFERENCE. ASAD HAS
DECLINED U.S. INVITATION TO VISIT WASHINGTON,
STATES DEMCHENKO. SIMILAR NOTE IS TRUCK IN FEB.
27 KZ "INTERNATIONAL MILITARY-POLITICAL REVEIW"
BY V. BEREZIN AND V. VINOGRADOV. BOTH ARTICLES
CITE VANCE STATEMENT THAT PLO IS A "MAIN OBSTACEL" TO
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GENEVA. BEREZIN AND VINOGRADOV CONCLUDE THAT "BASIC
OBSTACLE" IS ACTUALLY ISRAEL'S AGGRESSIVE AND
EXPANSIONISTIC POLICY WHICH HAS RELIED ON "TRADI-
TIONAL SUPPORT OF ITS OVERSEAS PROTECTORS."

--V. DROBKOV IN FEB. 27 PRAVDA MANAGES TO
DESCRIBE IN SOME DETAIL "CERTAIN POSITIVE MOVES"
(E.G., MAKARIOS-DENKTASH TALKS AND UNSYG WALDHEIM
INVOLVEMENT) WITH REGARD TO CYPRUS SETTLEMENT, WITHOUT
ONCE MENTIONING CLIFFORD VISIT.

--LIGHT WEEKEND COVERAGE OF OTHER U.S. AFFAIRS INCLUDED
AN IRONIC MOOD PIECE BY G. VASIL'YEV IN FEB. 27
PRAVDA ABOUT HIS TRIP THROUGH VIRGINIA TO ASCERTAIN
POPULAR ATTITUDES ABOUT U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS.
DESPITE PRESENCE OF SOME HAWKS AND MANY WHO WERE IGNORANT OR
MISINFORMED, HE FOUND ORDINARY PEOPLE ARE WELL DIS-
POSED TOWARD THE USSR.

--IZVESTIYA FEB. 25 DESCRIBES BUKOVSKIY AS A
SIMPLE CRIMINAL AND TRAITOR, AND "AUTHOR" WHO NEVER
WROTE ANYTHING OR DID ANY USEFUL WORK, AND WHOSE CAREER
WAS THAT OF A PROFESSIONAL TROUBLEMAKER SUPPORTED BY
NTS AND OTHER WESTERN SPONSORS.

--HOWARD HUNT'S REVELATION THAT CIA HAS BEEN
BRIBING FOREIGN OFFICIALS (FEB 25 IZ) WAS FOLLOWED
BY PRESIDENT CARTER'S EXPRESSION OF CONCERN TO
BRANDT ABOUT "CANARD" THAT LETTER ACCEPTED CIA MONEY.
(FEB 26 PR, IZ).

--SUPPORT OF SALT AND ARMS CONTROL BY HARRIMAN
(PR FEB 26) AND SENATOR SPARKMAN (PR FEB 27).

--NYT'S REPORT THAT CIA HAS USED FRIENDLY
INTELLIGENCE SERVICES TO WATCH AMERICANS ABROAD
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(PR FEB 28).

2. ASIA:

--TWO CHINA-RELATED ARTICLES IN THE WEEKEND
PRESS REFLECT THE RECENT GRADUAL INCREASE IN COVERAGE.
IZVESTIYA (FEB 26) AND PRAVDA (FEB 27) REPORT THAT A
SOVIET EMBASSY DELEGATION WAS PERMITTED TO LAY
WREATHS AT THE GRAVES OF SOVIET SOLDIERS IN DARIEN,
IN CONNECTION WITH SOVIET ARMED FORCES DAY. THE TASS
REPORT CITES NCNA THAT WREATHS WERE LAID ELSEWHERE
IN THE NAME OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND THE SOVIET-
CHINESE FRIENDSHIP SOCIETIES. (COMMENT: THIS PRAC-
TICE DOES NOT DIFFER FROM THAT OF THE PAST SEVERAL
YEARS, BUT THE TASS REPORT, UNTYPICALLY, GIVES IT
AN IMPLICITLY POSITIVE CAST.) PRAVDA (FEB 26) ALSO
REPORTS CONTINUED CRITICISM OF THE GANG OF FOUR IN
MEETINGS THROUGHOUT CHINA, DERIDES "ABSURD ANTI-
SOVIET STATEMENTS" AND CITES FOREIGN PRESS SOURCES
SAYING THAT THE PURGE HAS A "CONTRADICTIONARY
CHARACTER."

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4635

INFO SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY COLLECTIVE 102

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AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASHA

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SAN

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM

DIA WASHDC

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA

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3. MIDDLE EAST:

--V. KUDRYAVTSEV HAS A LONG, COMPLICATED ME
ROUNDUP IN FEB 25 IZVESTIYA WHICH DESCRIBES THE
INCREASED (NEGATIVE) ROLE OF LOCAL ARAB BOURGEOISIE
AND OF SAUDI ARABIA. SAUDI-LED 1973 OIL BOYCOTT

IS DESCRIBED AS BENEFITTING SAUDI ARABIA AND U.S. OIL MONOPOLIES AND AS HURTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. CONVERSELY, SAUDI ARABIA'S RECENT ROLE IN RESISTING SHARP OPEC PRICE INCREASE IS DESCRIBED AS RESULTING FROM SAUDI FEAR THAT LEFTIST PARTIES MIGHT COME TO POWER IF POLITICAL REGIMES IN WESTERN COUNTRIES WERE WEAKENED. ARAB REACTIONARIES, SAYS KUDRYAVTSEV, ARE TRYING TO CREATE AN "ATMOSPHERE" AROUND GENEVA CONFERENCE WHICH IS UNFAVORABLE FOR PROGRESSIVE FORCES AND FAVORABLE FOR FUTURE "DEALS" WITH IMPERIALISTS AND THEIR MONOPOLIES. SAUDI ARABIA IS TRYING TO STOP PALESTINE LIBERATION MOVEMENT FROM PLAYING IMPORTANT ROLE IN ANTI-IMPERIALIST STRUGGLE.

--FEB 27 KZ CITES BAGHDAD TARIK ASH-SHAAB ON SAUDI SUPPORT FOR PERSIAN GULF SECURITY SCHEME. ARTICLE EMPHASIZES INCREASED U.S. NAVAL PRESENCE IN REGION.

--FEB 28 PRAVDA NOTES STATEMENT BY CC CP IRAQ MEMBER M.A. REDA AT BAGHDAD CEREMONY. REDA REPORTEDLY SAID IT WAS NECESSARY FOR ALL PALESTINIANS TO RALLY BEHIND LEADERSHIP OF PLO.

--IN COMMENTING ON EGYPTIAN MFA STATEMENT ON ISRAELI OCCUPATION, PRAVDA'S (FEB 28) A. VASIL'YEV SAYS AS CAIRO'S POLICY BECOMES MORE "FLEXIBLE," ISRAEL'S GETS MORE HARSH.

--FEB 28 PRAVDA NOTES CPSU DELEGATION TO PDRY. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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4. AFRICA:

--V. KOROVNIKOV IN FEB 27 PRAVDA HAS DEFINITIVE ARTICLE ON RECENT ETHIOPIAN EVENTS. HE STATES THAT MONARCHISTS (INCLUDING FORMER CROWN PRINCE ASFA BOSSENA AND SCION OF IMPERIAL FAMILY MENGESH SEYYUMA, NAMES PHONETIC) CREATED COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATION WITH HEADQUARTERS IN LONDON AND SAUDI ARABIA. THIS GROUP ATTRACTED PETTY BOURGEOIS AND ANARCHISTIC ELEMENTS (INCLUDING NATIONAL REVOLUTIONARY PARTY) AND, DUE TO INTERNAL DIFFERENCES IN PMAC, A PORTION OF PMAC MEMBERSHIP WENT OVER TO "COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY CAMP." WITH SUPPORT OF ARMY UNITS AND MAJORITY OF PMAC MEMBERS, AND "OPERATION" WAS UNDERTAKEN ON FEB 3 TO PURGE PMAC OF "COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES, APPEASERS AND CAPITULATIONISTS." LE COL MENGISTU IS MENTIONED AS HAVING BEEN DEFACTO HEAD OF REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT SINCE FEB 1974. "SOME" WORKERS' DETACHMENTS AND PEASANTS' MILITIA HAVE RECEIVED ARMS, SAYS KOROVNIKOV. SINGLE REFERENCE IS MADE TO FORCES OF INTERNAL REACTION AND THE "EXTERNAL IMPERIALISTS WHO INSPIRE

THEM."

--FEB 26 PRAVDA "COMMENTATOR'S COLUMN" BY
V. VILKOV DESCRIBES VARIOUS ENEMIES OF ANGOLA,
MILITARY BASES AND MANEUVERS NEAR BORDER (COBRA-77 EXERCISES
IS MENTIONED), AND DIVERSIONARY DETACHMENTS OF
REBELS SUPPLIED WITH NATO WEAPONS. THIS, SAYS
VOLKOV, EMPHASIZES "IMPORTANT SIGNIFICANCE" OF
MILITARY PREPARATION AND TRAINING OF ANGOLAN ARMED
FORCES.

--FEB 27 PRAVDA ARTICLE ON ANGOLAN RATIFICATION
OF SOVIET-ANGOLAN FRIENDSHIP TREATY CITES COMMUNIQUE
OF ANGOLAN REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL ON POLITICAL AND
IDEOLOGICAL UNITY OF ANGOLAN AND SOVIET PEOPLES.

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5. LATIN AMERICA:

--FEB 28 PRAVDA "COMMENTATOR'S COLUMN" BY
G. ZAFESOV USES RECENT CUBAN-COSTA RICAN DECISION
TO ESTABLISH CONSULAR AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS TO
DEMONSTRATE GROWING INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITY OF
CUBA. EMPHASIS IS GIVEN TO CHANGING MOOD IN U.S.

--FEB 26 KZ HAS BLAND PIECE ON PERU BY I.
LOVENKO WHICH DESCRIBES PROGRESSIVE EFFORTS OF
MILITARY REGIME DESPITE RESISTANCE OF FOREIGN
MONOPOLIES AND INTERNAL REACTION.

6. EUROPE:

--PRAVDA FEB 26 HAS LONG ARTICLE BY S. DMITRIYEV
(POSSIBLY PSEUDONYM) GIVING DETAILED
REASONING FOR WHY OVERALL ATMOSPHERE OF DETENTE
MUST BE GOOD IF CSCE IMPLEMENTATION IS TO TAKE PLACE.
(SEPTEL).

--PRAVDA REFERS TO HUMAN RIGHTS IN INTERNATIONAL
WEEK FEB 26 REVIEW IN STANDARD TERMS POINTING
FINGER AT WESTERN FAULTS. GENERAL HR COVERAGE
IS STANDARD IN AMOUNT, TONE AND SUBJECT TREATED.

--PRAVDA FEB 26 CARRIES SHORT ANNOUNCEMENT OF
VISIT OF YUGOSLAV SECRETARY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS HERLEVIC TO MOSCOW
FEB 24 TO MEET WITH SOVIET KGB COUNTERPART ANDROPOV.
SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO BELGRADE SMOLE ATTENDED MEET-
ING.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 28-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
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From: MOSCOW
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY: FEBRUARY 26-28, 1977
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PINR, PARM, MILI, SHUM, CY, CH, US, XF, PLO
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vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eeb2ffc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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